(c) the details of proposed action plan of Government to initiate new projects at least to commensurate with the resources generated from the State to meet the ends of justice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE INTHE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) and (b) Chief Minister of Orissa has written a letter dated 10/01/2003 to the Hon'ble Prime Minister requesting for allocation of Rs. 510 crore during 2003-04 for various ongoing projects in the State and other matters.The demands made therein are as under:—

1. Allocation of Rs. 510 crore during 2003-04 for various ongoing projects in the State;
2. Sanction of two new lines, wz.,Talcher-Bimalgarh andTalcher-Gopalpur;
3. Expeditious completion of various ongoing surveys and taking up of survey for Rayagada- Gopalpur new line;
4. Introduction/increase in frequency/extension of certain trains; and
5. Expansion/development of new coaching terminals.

(c)The new projects are taken up based on laid down criteria keeping in view the overall availability of resources.

Rajdhani Express for Bhubaneswar

445. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Bhubaneswar, Capital of Orissa, an important religious and tourist-cum-business centre of the State has now developed as a Regional Software Centre;

(b) whether both up and down passenger rail traffic from Bhubaneswar has increased manifold; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to increase the frequency of up and down Rajdhani Express to Bhubaneswar and introduce other fast services; if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE INTHE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) and (b) The number of passengers originating at Bhubaneswar station during the previous three years are as under:—

1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02
19,50,610	23,02,693	26,34,249

(c) It is proposed to increase the frequency of Bhubaneswar-Rajdhani to thrice a week. Introduction of new trains services is a continuous process depending on traffic pattern, operational feasibility and resource constraints.

Increase in number of unreserved coaches

†446. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of unreserved coaches of general class in the.trains running more than 500 kms. due to which passengers have to face lot of difficulties;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to increase the number of unreserved coaches of general class in view of the difficulties being faced by the passengers; and

(d) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE INTHE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Increase in number of coaches, including general second class unreserved coaches is an ongoing process Subject to traffic pattern, availability of resources and operational feasibility.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.